

DBB 55761

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**SECRET**

## Copy to:

Report of: FERD J. RAPP, Jr.

Office: Los Angeles, California

Date:

JUL 22 1966

Field Office File #: 105-1953

Bureau File #: 105-147037

Title: ( ) ANDRE BELA LOUIS BAK

*see additional report on  
subject: DBB: 54792*Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE  
REGISTRATION ACT - FRANCE

Synopsis: JOSEPH PAPP, Baldwin Park, California, advised DEZSO BENYO visited him one year ago but did not mention ANDRE BAK, who is unknown to PAPP. JOHN EROS, Covina, California, advised he met BENYO in July, 1965, while BENYO was soliciting funds for an institute in West Germany. EROS does not know BAK. EROS learned from a Hungarian friend at Buffalo, New York, that BENYO had solicited funds there before coming to West Coast.

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The following investigation was conducted at Malibu Park, California by SA FRED J. RUFF, JR. on June 7, 1968

JOSEPH RUFF, 4031 North Walnut was interviewed with the assistance of DEAN SALINAS, 3472 Fairview, Riverside, California, who acted as interpreter. Mr. RUFF advised that he first met BENNO BENTZ about one year ago when he appeared in Southern California and explained that he had arrived from Germany and was touring the United States contacting groups of Hungarian descent soliciting money from them for a "research library". He said he referred BENTZ to another Hungarian friend, JOHN LEO. LEO said he was going east to Washington D.C. and New York and Mr. RUFF later received a card postmarked in Arizona and he heard nothing further from him. Mr. RUFF advised that he did not know ANDRE BAK and that BENTZ never talked about that person.

JOHN LEO, 16666 Radiant Court, Covina, California advised that in July, 1965 he was introduced to BENTZ by Mr. RUFF and as BENTZ was in the area contacting Hungarians he let him stay at his residence for a week or more. He believed that BENTZ was soliciting funds from Hungarians which funds were to be used for the Research Institute TEL-Schluss, Telzing, West Germany. He said that ANDRE BAK is not known to him and BENTZ did not discuss that person. After leaving California, BENTZ said that he would call at the White House in Washington and would confer with government officials there in connection with his promotion of the research institute. He said he also received a card from BENTZ postmarked at Arizona shortly after he left California, but heard nothing further from him.

However, he has since received a letter from a Hungarian friend DEAN GANAN, 164 Military Road, Buffalo, New York relating that BENTZ had been soliciting funds in Buffalo, New York about April, 1965 and GANAN had made a loan of \$50.00. GANAN wrote that he feared BENTZ was a fraud and had pocketed money he collected. GANAN reported that BENTZ's real name was BENEDICT BENTZ and he had been born at Eytel Jensef, Hungary. BENTZ claimed to have served as a doctor in the U.S. Army, fighting in Korea and claimed that he had attended the UCLA Medical School in California. It was also intimated that the German Police were investigating BENTZ.

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